

# The Mint Master

August 2010  
Volume 56, Issue 8

Newsletter of the Utah Numismatic Society

Page 1



This Month's  
Program:  
**Todd Monson  
will speak  
about treasure  
hunting.**

## Highlights

Coin of the Month	2
Buy of the Month	3
Prizes this Month	3
Book Review	3
Quiz & Trivia	4
Young Numismatists	4
Counterfeit Corner	5
Feature Article	6
Advertisers	7
Advertisers	8
Membership Form	9
Back Page	10



## President's Message

I hope everyone that attended our annual summer picnic had an enjoyable time. I certainly did. And we had great weather! Thanks to all those who went the extra mile in lending a helping hand for this event!

Have you noticed several recent news stories which describe the events surrounding a discovery of a "treasure" of some

kind? Just last month, the second largest haul of Roman coins ever found in Britain was unearthed by metal detector enthusiast David Crisp. The weight of this treasure find equals the combined weight of two fully grown men, over 52,000 coins. Wow!

For our meeting August 10th, we'll have our own "treasure" night as Todd Monson from our sister club, NUTS, will

speak to us about his own recent metal detector treasure find in St. George. Todd has also get to display the goods that night, so plan on attending. It should be a lot of fun to see & hear all about it!

See you there!

*Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't.*

**Erica Jong**

Tom Jensen

## July Meeting Details.

Meetings -	Second Tuesday of each month ( August 10 <sup>th</sup> )
Time -	7:00 P.M.
Location -	Columbus Community Center; 2531 South 400 East, SLC
Greetings -	Tom Jensen
Mini Exhibit -	Doug Nyholm
News & Views -	TBA
Coin Quiz -	TBA
Refreshments-	UNS

## **UNS Schedule for 2010**

August – Speaker –  
Todd Monson

Sept. – Auction

Oct.–Grading Seminar  
Speaker – TBA

Nov.–Bourse/Elections

Dec.–Christmas Dinner

**Do you have  
something to say?  
Say it here.  
Contact the editor  
with your  
comment or  
information you  
would like to share  
with other club  
members. There's  
always room in the  
Mintmaster for  
your views,  
information, and  
opinions.**

## **Interesting Coin of the Month**

### ***NE Coinage / Witch Coins***



The “NE” or “New England” coinage was the first coins struck by the early colonists. They were struck in the denominations of one schilling, six pence, and a three pence which is currently unique. The crude design proved to be problematic as clipping and counterfeit pieces soon arose. Clipping was the practice of removing small shavings of silver from the edges of many coins, accumulating these shavings and selling them for their silver value long after the original clipped coins were spent for full value. After a period of time, coins in circulation literally began to shrink in size. Many surviving coins are bent. This was done because of the superstition regarding witches in New England at the time and the belief that a bent coin carried in one's pocket protected the individual from witchcraft and spells. The NE coins, although undated, are thought to have been struck in 1652. Because of the above mentioned problems, they were soon replaced with willow, oak, and pine tree coinage. They were coined on a roller press and most are on imperfect planchets, thus giving them a very rustic and crude appearance. Most have been discovered in the New England area and all are quite rare.

### **UNS Program for August's Meeting**

Todd Monson will be speaking on a recent treasure he found as well as displaying it. He will tell us of the excitement of hunting with a metal detector. This should be of interest to everyone, don't miss this months meeting!

# Prizes & Buy of the Month

## This month's buy is:

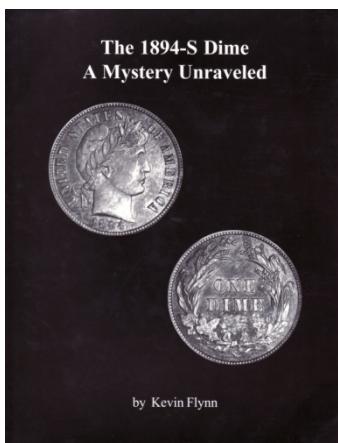
- To Be Announced

## Prizes of the Month

### Grand Prize – Gold Coin

2010 Proof BSA Commemorative Dollar  
 1992 Olympic Commemorative Dollar  
 1890 British florin  
 1976 3 coin Silver Set  
 Roll mixed Buffalo nickels  
 1999 Unc. Canadian set  
 1 Silver Half and 4 Silver Quarters  
 1946-S Dime  
 1881 3 -Centpiece  
 1863 Indian Cent  
 Silver Round (Liberty)  
 1977 Unc. Set  
 1926-S Standing Liberty Quarter  
 1992 Olympic Commemorative Dollar  
 1934 BU Quarter  
 Misc. Canadian Coins  
 Neutron Irradiated Dime

Morgan Dollar - UNS Membership Prize  
 1962 & 1962D Quarters – Promptness Prize  
 1986 Liberty Half Proof – Junior Prize



## Book Review

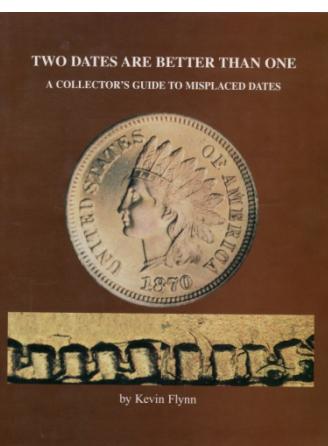
Two more books from Kevin Flynn are reviewed this month. The first is a book on a single coin, the very rare 1894-S Barber dime. It is 8 ½ x 11 format published in 2005. This book is a little hard to locate but with a bit of patience it can be found. It is published in black and white on regular paper but has everything you ever wanted, or didn't know you wanted about this classic American rarity. My first impression was that there was just way too much information that I wasn't really interested in but once I started reading I found it to be a very interesting book. It is 129 pages in length packed with information.

The second book, also by Kevin Flynn is a massive book of 512 pages. It is also 8 ½ x 11 format in black and white. It is profusely illustrated with hundreds of coins with misplaced dates. I bet you have one in your collection and

don't even know it! For anyone interested in varieties and re-inspecting all the coins in their collection this book will make for hours of fun. And I bet some of you didn't even know this type of error existed. This book was published back in 1997 and may also be a bit hard to find.

I found both of these volumes on EBAY each for under \$30. As many of you know I am a book nut so if you search EBAY and find something unusual grab it up, I will be surfing right behind you.

There is more information about numismatics available than any time in history so the saying, "Read the book before you buy the coin" is very appropriate and easy to accomplish. Doug Nyholm





# Coin Quiz & Trivia

Consider yourself a world class expert if you can identify the above coin. (I.e. Denomination, date, and mint, and anything else notable.) It can be done.

Our resident 'World Expert,' Bob Campbell was the only one to even come close. This is an 1882 \$3 Gold piece created by the 'Omega' counterfeiter. Note the omega symbol in the 'R.'

*Answers to last month's questions.*

1) 1800 Silver Dollars 2) \$20 3) Victor 4) 1930-S 5) 1875

## Young Numismatist's Corner

**Coins from circulation** are a great place in coin collecting for kids to start.

**The monetary risk is low** (*you can always spend the coins*), and they can learn a lot examining the coins carefully and seeing what reference books say about them. These coins would be easy to find. You can just pick some up at your local bank for face value. After your child has sorted through them and kept the ones they want, you can exchange the leftovers at your bank and start the process again. You can also check the spare penny dishes in convenience stores, restaurants, etc. And don't forget to ask friends and relatives to save old or unusual coins for you. Once your child finds that are more rare and harder to locate, you can visit coin shops, coin shows, and even online. Be sure to look for **bargain bins**. Most will have them inexpensive coins for a child's collection. This will help them learn about a budget and making wise choices for their collection.



## Counterfeit Corner

### 1916-D MERCURY DIME

Added Mintmark

GENUINE



#### Pick Up Point

#### Shape of Mintmark

Frequency Encountered  
Very common

Identification Difficulty  
Moderate

Value  
Medium to high

The 1916-D Mercury dime is probably the most altered coin seen. The favorite way to create this rarity is to add a "D" mintmark and this is the key to identification. Genuine coins have a square D and the inside of the D is triangular. The serifs are not pointed and the D is crisp and sharp. There are 4 reverse dies of which two show repunching of the mintmark showing a notch on the upper serif. It is actually more difficult to identify a fake if the dime is well worn. A worn mintmark/coin can make the diagnostics more difficult to observe.

## Feature Article – Weights & Measures / Doug Nyholm

Have you ever wondered what's a pennyweight, how many grams are in an ounce, or how many grains are in a kilogram? There are a lot of terms regarding weights and measures in common use (or some not so common) that I believe that many numismatists are not completely familiar with. Are you aware that the old silver coinage was .900 fine or 90% silver and likewise the gold coins minted 1933 and earlier were also 90% gold? (There are a few very early exceptions) but the modern gold US Eagle in not .900 but .9167! This is virtually the same as the first gold Eagles, Half Eagles, and Quarters Eagles minted. Technically they were specified to be .916 2/3 fine. Below and on the 'Back Page' are tables you may find interesting regarding these standards and associated weights and measures.

### Metric Equivalents

1 Troy Oz	31.102 ½ Grams		US Silver Coins		
1 Troy Oz	480 Grains		Date	Denomination	Silver Content in Troy Oz
1 Troy Oz	20 Pennyweight		1878-1935	Dollar	.7736
12 Troy Oz	1 Troy Pound		1892-1964	½ Dollar	.3618
32.15 Troy Oz	1 Kilogram		1965-1970	½ Dollar	.1480
1 Avoirdupois Oz	0.914 Troy Oz		1892-1964	Quarter	.1809
1 Avoirdupois Lb	14.5833 Troy Oz		1873-1964	Dime	.0724
1 Gram	15.432 Grains		1942-1945	Nickel	.0563
1 Gram	0.643 Pennyweight				
1,000 Grams	1 Kilogram				
24 Grains	1 Pennyweight		Gold / AU		Melts @ 1945 F
5,670 Grains	1 Troy Pound		Silver / AG		Melts @ 1761 F
15,432 Grains	1 Kilogram		Platinum / PT		Melts @ 3224 F
240 Pennyweight	1 Troy Pound				
643.01 Pennyweight	1 Kilogram				
20 Pennyweight	1.09714 Oz / ~1 Oz				
1 Pennyweight	0.054				
1 Kilogram	2.68 Troy Pounds				

United States Gold Coins	Period of Coinage	Weight of Coin in Grams	Purity or Fineness	Gold Content in Troy Ounces
50 Dollars	1915	83.5920	.900	.24188
50 Dollars	1986 – Date	33.931	.9167	1.00
25 Dollars	1986 – Date	16.966	.9167	.500
20 Dollars	1850 - 1933	33.4370	.900	.9675
10 Dollars	1795 – 1804	17.4975	.916 2/3	.5156
10 Dollars	1838 – 1933	16.7185	.900	.4348
10 Dollars	1986 – Date	8.43	.9167	.250
5 Dollars	1795 – 1833	8.7480	.916 2/3	.2578
5 Dollars	1834 – 1836	8.3592	.899 ¼	.2417
5 Dollars	1837 – 1929	8.3592	.900	.2419
5 Dollars	1986 – Date	3.393	.9167	.100
4 Dollars	1879 – 1880	6.6872	.900	.1935
3 Dollars	1854 – 1889	5.0154	.900	.1451
2 ½ Dollars	1796 – 1833	4.3740	.916 2/3	.1289
2 ½ Dollars	1834 – 1836	4.1796	.899 ¼	.1208
2 ½ Dollars	1837 – 1929	4.1796	.900	.1209
1 Dollar	1849 - 1889	1.6718	.900	.0484

See the 'Back Page' for common world gold coin weights and karat table.

Doug Nyholm



## Identify This Coin

Can you identify the coin pictured above? I won't show the reverse as it would give it away but it was struck by the US mint. What makes it special? What year was it struck?

Good Luck!

[Last month's coin was an 1848 CAL Quarter Eagle. This was the first coin struck by the US Mint utilizing gold from the California gold rush.]

## Advertisements

### MONARCH COINS

211 E. 3900 S.  
Salt Lake City, UT  
801-262-5874

Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 to 5:00 & Saturday 10:00 to 2:00

**Come see our expanded showroom.**

Staci Larsen, Bob Ottley, Sarah Rich, and Jesse VanDeMere

### Muller/Robertson Coins & Currency

We are looking to buy collections or individual pieces of world/US coins and currency  
Call us at 801-581-0991

### Eureka Coin Company

Contact George Wilson at:  
801-928-1192 or email at [Eurekacoins@gmail.com](mailto:Eurekacoins@gmail.com)

### ALL ABOUT COINS

1123 E. 2100 S.  
Salt Lake City, UT  
801-467-8636

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed Monday's  
Contact **Bob Campbell** at 801-467-8636  
UNS Member since 1973

### PL Treasures

Contact LaVon Ottley at 801-597-6488 or Bob Ottley at 801-943-3913

Fine Jewelry, 14kt gold, diamonds & colored stones, sterling silver. Custom made settings, repairs and remounts. Also, rare coins, tokens, medals and bullion products available. We buy and sell US and World coins.

### J & J Collectibles

Phone: Home-(801)957-9915, Cell-(801)674-4962  
Email: [jvrazel15@msn.com](mailto:jvrazel15@msn.com)

Specializing in UNS, Ogden & Nuts Club Medals, Rounds & assorted misc. coins and collectables. Items are for sale at shows and in between. Call and see if we have what you need. I am also available for questions via my Email.



Since 1966  
**RUST RARE COIN INC.**  
252 EAST 300 SOUTH SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111  
PH: 801.363.4014 or 1.800.343.7878

[www.rustcoin.com](http://www.rustcoin.com) Contact Josh Rust for all your numismatic needs.

## Advertisements

### Abbott & Barton Rare Coins

4698 South Holladay Boulevard  
Holladay, UT 84117  
801-278-8500

Come in and see our new store! All Welcome!

### Michael Abbott & Andrew Barton - Proprietors

[Andrewbarton32@yahoo.com](mailto:Andrewbarton32@yahoo.com)

Hours: Tue-Fri 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed Sunday & Monday

We buy Sell or Trade Gold, Silver and Platinum. Check us out, you will be pleased you did.

### Rust Coin & Gifts

1774 N. University Parkway  
Provo, UT 84604  
801-377-1574 or 888-864-1574

### Bryan Rust or Sherilee Kazamini

[Rusycoinz1@hotmail.com](mailto:Rusycoinz1@hotmail.com)

If you are looking to sell you collection please give us a call! We also trade and sell coins. We love to help our customers with coins they need, so if you have a want list we would be happy to help you out. We've been in the coin business for 45 years.



Own this beautiful two-sided coin for \$9.97 including shipping.  
[www.ChristianChallengeCoins.com](http://www.ChristianChallengeCoins.com)

1.5" brass stamped antiqued gold plated with soft enamel colors. Two-sided with 3-D relief images. Hefty, nearly 1 ounce coin. Mfg. by Symbol Arts – Ogden Utah

Christian Challenge Coin by PFC Coins, LLC



### UNS Officers & Board Members

Tom Jensen – President  
Doug Nyholm – VP  
Sharee Norman – Sec.  
Ralph Mueller – Treas.  
Don Swain – Medals  
Bruce Griggs – Curator  
Dennis Ruffell – Lib.  
Bob Campbell – Bourse  
Doug Nyholm- Newslet.

### Board

Chris Larsen  
Robert Whitehead  
Eldon Farnsworth  
Ron Swain  
Michael Norman  
David Larsen  
Robie Cagle

### Special Ad

Chris Larson has the following for sale:

1. Almost complete UNS medal set 1970-2007  
Missing only 3 medals.
2. Scarce 1<sup>st</sup> edition 'Tokens of Utah' by Harry Campbell  
Asking \$100.00 !

Contact Chris at 801-943-3101

This is a paid advertisement. If anyone in the UNS has material for sale why not place an ad in the Mintmaster?  
Contact your editor, Doug Nyholm for details.

**Utah Numismatic  
Society**  
P.O. Box 65064  
Salt Lake City, UT  
84165

## E-mail

douglas.nyholm@comcast.net

*Your input,  
suggestions and  
written articles are  
always appreciated*

# Membership Form

## Application for membership in the Utah Numismatic Society / UNS

Name(s) of applicant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to receive the newsletter? [ ] Email / Preferred [ ] Postal Mail

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

When & Where we meet –  
Columbus Community Center  
2531 South 400 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM

#### Annual Dues:

Family \$25     Adult (18 and older) \$15     Junior \$5

Individual Lifetime Memberships are \$250.00. There is no family Lifetime Membership.

PLAN AHEAD!

The advertisement features a central collage of several historical coins and medals, including a large Morgan dollar, a Lincoln cent, and a half-dollar coin. The background is a light beige color. The text is arranged in several sections: "47th ANNUAL" at the top center, followed by "UTAH COIN SHOW" in large bold letters. Below that is the date "OCTOBER 15, 16, 2010". The location information follows: "Salt Lake Community College's Miller Training Center" and "9750 South 300 West-Sandy, Utah 84074". A note below the location says "Sponsored by the". The Utah Numismatic Society logo is shown with the text "UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY". The admission fees are listed as "ADMISSION \$3.00 - FAMILY \$5.00". A special offer for coin club members is "FREE TO COIN CLUB MEMBERS WITH CARD". The show hours are "Friday-Saturday, 10 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.". At the bottom, it says "FEATURING: COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY, HAND HELD COLLECTIBLES AND JEWELRY". On the right side, there is contact information: "Information 801-467-8636".



**Comments, Suggestions,  
and articles should be  
submitted to:**

douglas.nyholm@comcast  
.net

## The Back Page – Gold content of world coins

### Gold Karat/Fineness table

<b>Foreign Gold Type of Coin</b>	<b>Net Gold weight in Troy Oz.</b>
Austrian 100 Corona	.9802
Austrian 20 Corona	.1960
Austrian 10 Corona	.0980
Austrian 4 Ducat	.4438
Austrian 1 Ducat	.1109
Belgium 20 Francs	.1867
British Sovereign (1 Pound)	.2354
British Half Sovereign	.1177
Canadian \$50 (Maple Leaf)	1.000
Chili 100 Pesos	.5885
Columbian 5 Peso	.2354
Cuba 10 Pesos	.4838
Denmark 20 Kroner	.2592
Finland 20 Markkaa	.1867
Finland 10 Markkaa	.0933
France 20 Franks	.1867
France 10 Franks	.0933
Germany 20 Marks	.2305
Germany 10 Marks	.1152
Hungarian 100 Korona	.9802
Italy 20 Lire	.1867
Mexico 50 Peso	1.2057
Mexico 20 Peso	.4823
Mexico 10 Peso	.2411
Mexico 5 Peso	.1205
Mexico 2.5 Peso	.0602
Mexico 2 Peso	.0482
Netherlands 10 Guilders	.1947
Norway 20 Kroner	.2593
Peru 1 Libra	.2354
Russia 10 Rubles	.2489
Russia 5 Rubles	.1244

<b>Foreign Gold Type of Coin</b>	<b>Net Gold weight in Troy Oz.</b>
South African Krugerrand	1.000
South African 2 Rand	.2354
Spain 25 Pescias	.2334
Sweden 20 Kroner	.2593
Switzerland 20 Francs	.1867
Turkey 100 Kurush	.2127
Venezuela 20 Bolivares	.1867

<b>Karats</b>	<b>Fineness</b>
24 Karats	1.000
22 Karats	916 2/3
21 Karats	.875
20 Karats	.833 1/3
18 Karats	.750
16 Karats (Dental)	.666
14 Karats	.583 1/3
10 Karats	.416
<b>21.6 Karats</b>	<b>.900</b>